

Special Winter Weather Briefing



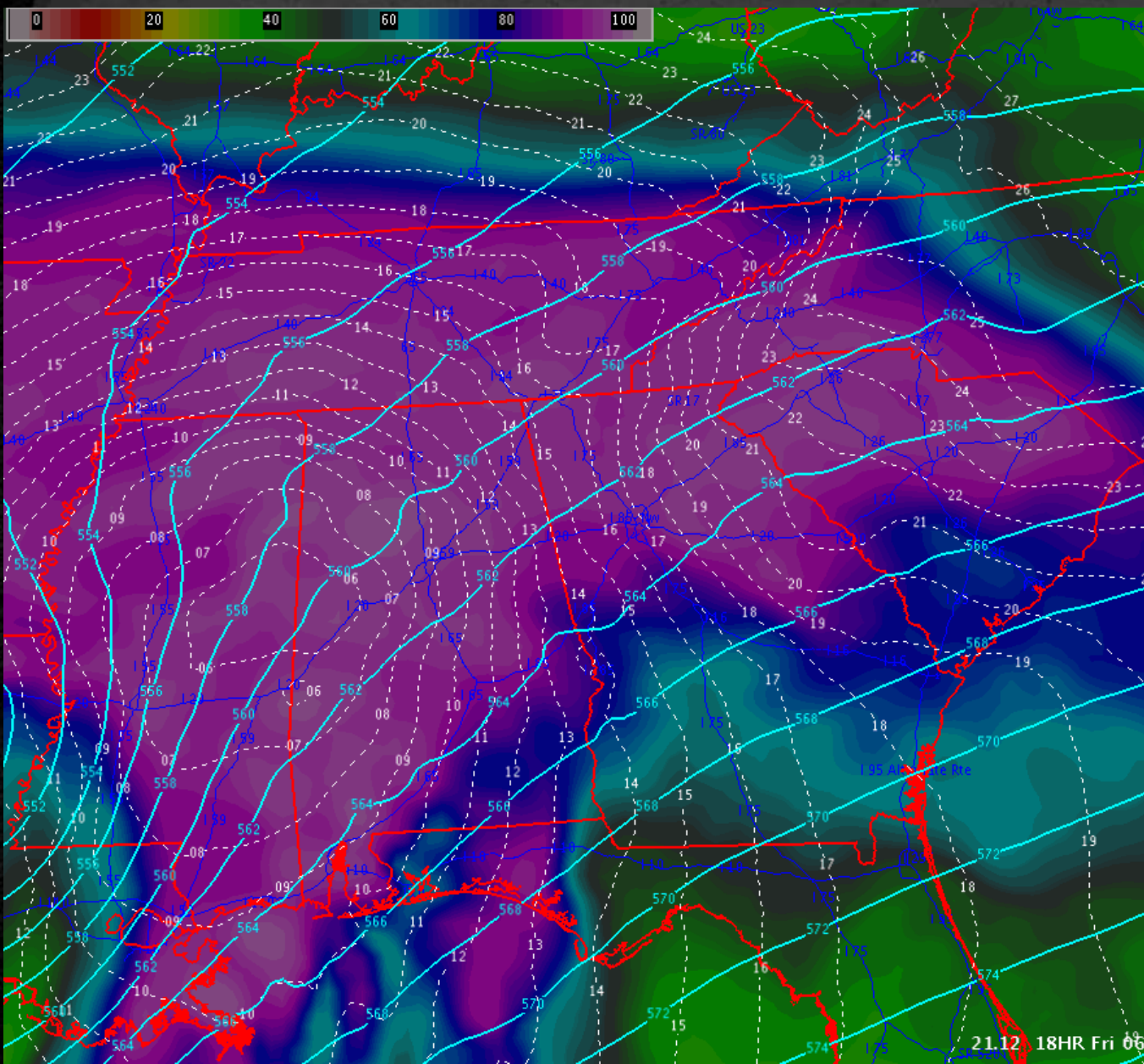
NWS Peachtree City, Georgia

January 21, 2016

www.srh.noaa.gov/ffc/html/briefings.php



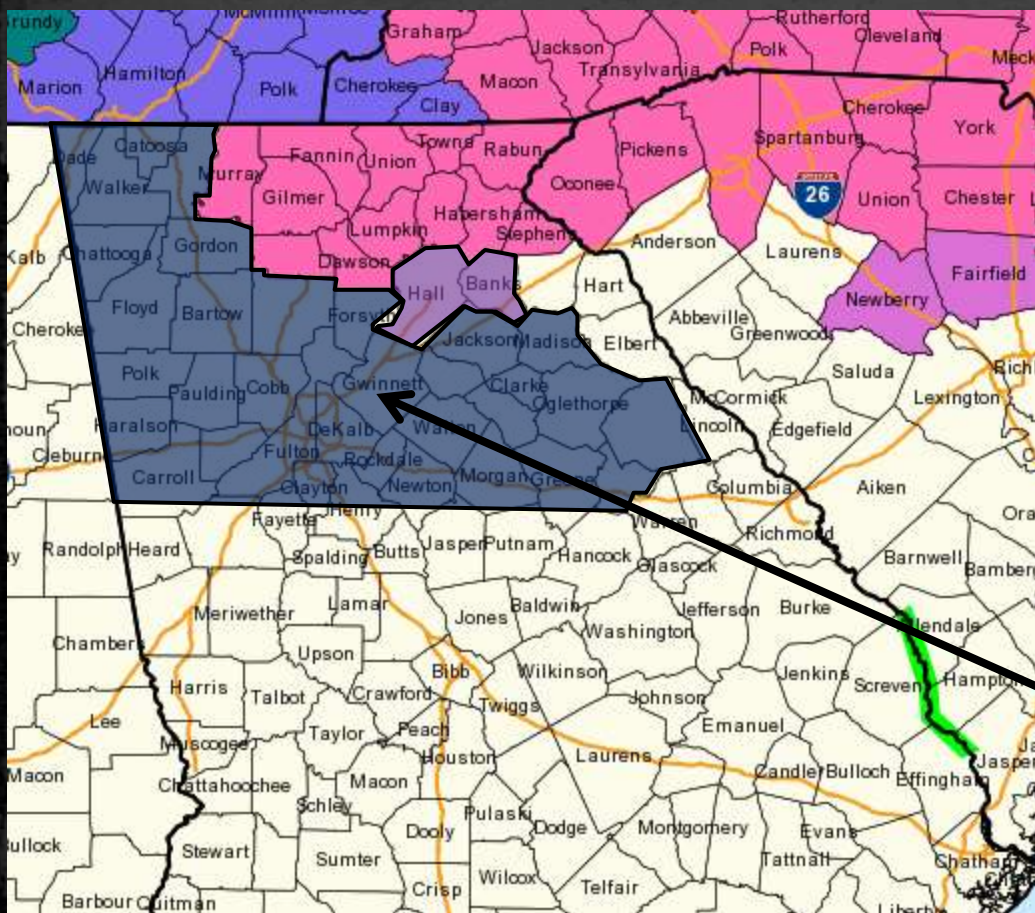
Big Picture of the complicated forecast



- System progression from:
 - 7 AM Friday -> 10 AM Sat
- Track of the upper low the key (**solid light blue**)
- Note new surface low off the coast, drives cold air further into GA on Friday

Surface pressure
(dashed white)

Latest Watch/Warning/Advisory



- **Winter Storm Warning**
 - Valid: 1AM Tonight – 7PM Saturday
 - 1/10 to 1/4" ICE
 - Late tonight/Friday AM
 - 3-6" SNOW
 - Friday PM/Sat AM
- **Hall/Banks Co. likely included in WARNING (AM Update)**
- **Potential Area for WINTER STORM WATCH**
 - Friday PM-Saturday
 - Up to 2" snow



Highlights – Tonight

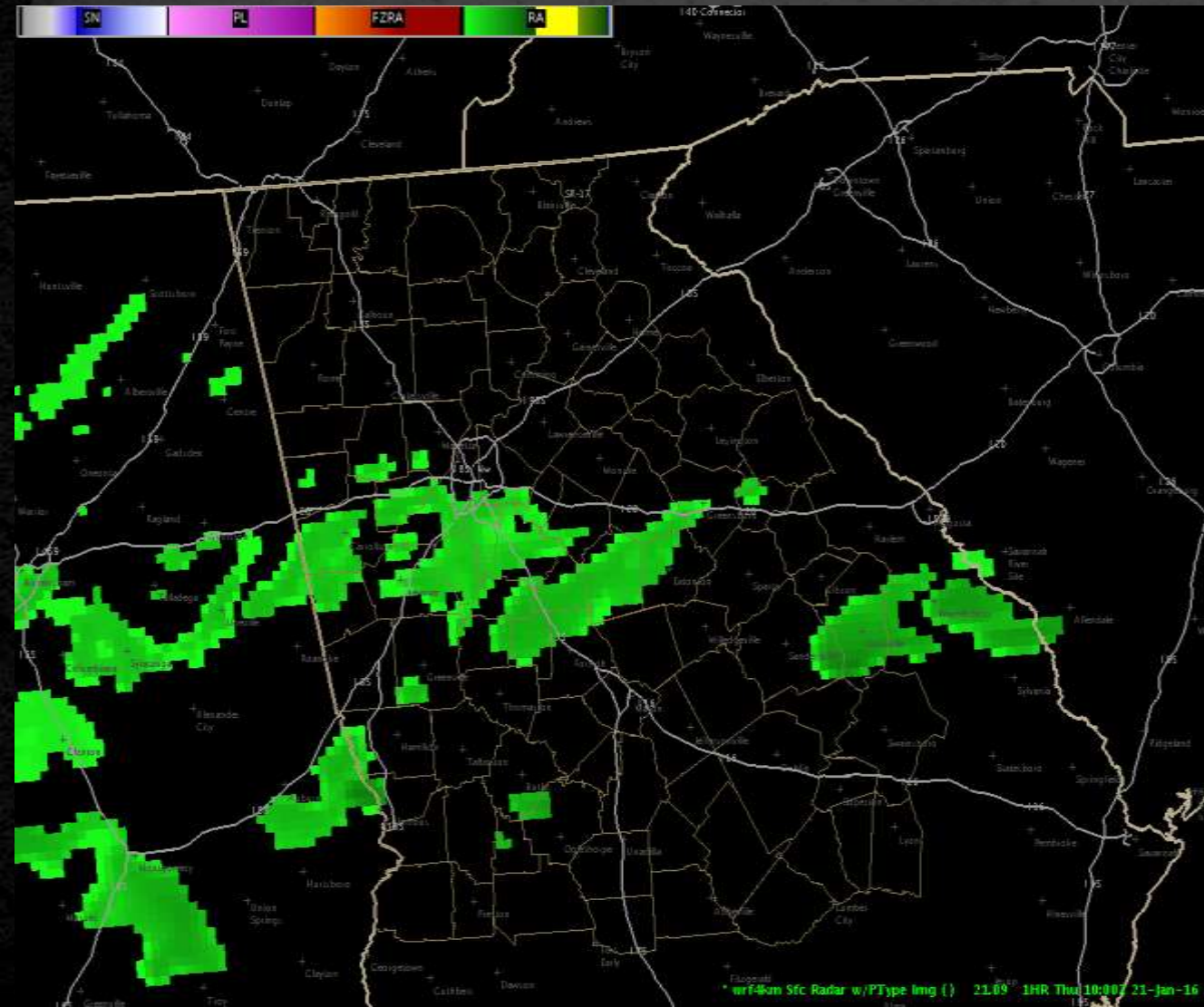
- Rain + WIND increasing across the area
- FREEZING RAIN – extreme NE Georgia
 - WHY? Shallow cold air (wedge) lingers
 - WHEN? Mainly after Midnight
 - WHERE? White/Lumpkin/Hall/Banks Counties



Radar Forecast – Tonight-Friday AM

Precip Type – Local High Res Model

5 AM Thu – 3 PM Fri



- Notice the wedge expansion into NE GA
- Wedge starts moving in later today
- Near freezing NE GA
3 AM – 9 AM
Friday



Highlights – Friday

- Rain continues much of the area (locally heavy) w/ 2+ inches expected
- Flood potential will increase, especially for fast-responding creeks/streams + urban areas
- Rain/Freezing Rain transitioning to Sleet/Snow across North Georgia by late afternoon



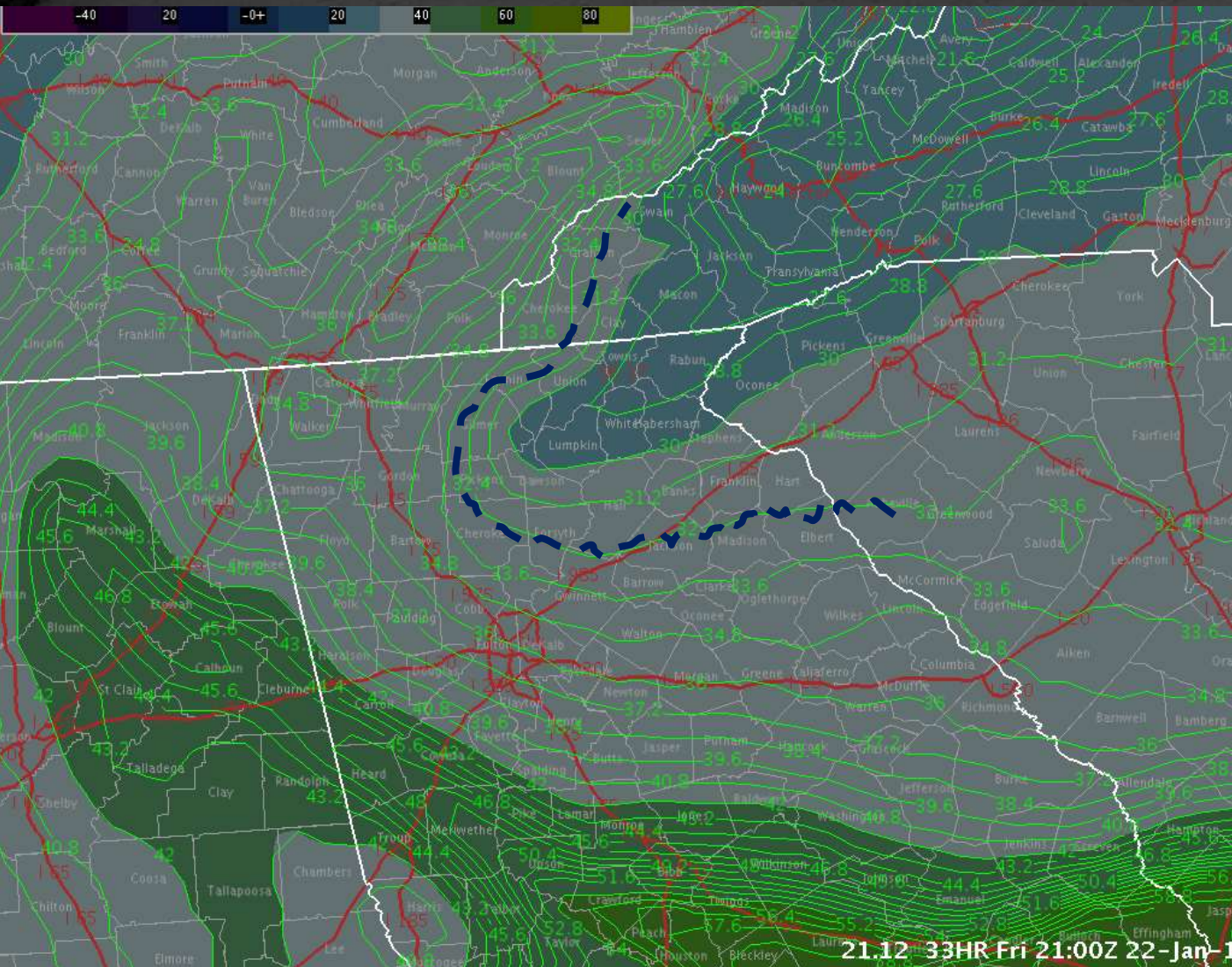
Highlights – Friday

- Windy Conditions!
 - 15-25 MPH Sustained w/ Gusts to 35 MPH
 - Late morning through afternoon hours
 - **HIGHER GUSTS to 45 MPH possible!!**
 - **IMPACT** – downed trees/powerlines
- Strong Thunderstorms (embedded in broken squall line)
 - **IMPACTS: Enhanced Rainfall + Stronger Winds**



Wedge Friday

showing probable temps with the wedge



- By Friday PM, the wedge pushing into NE Metro
- Classic Wedge counties impacted



Highlights – Friday Night/Saturday

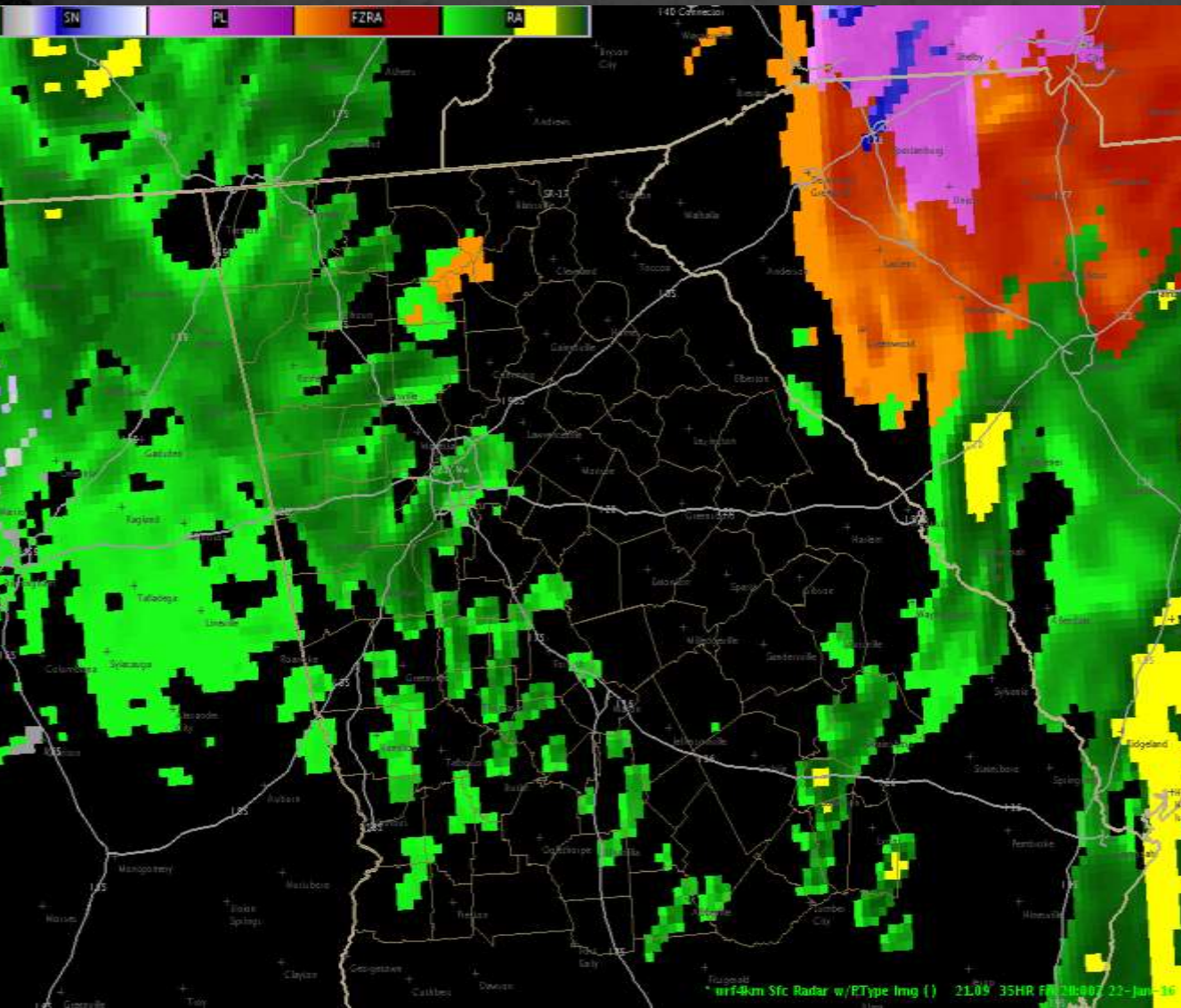
- Rain changing to Snow 6PM to Midnight (northwest to southeast)
- ATL metro likely to see transition... 5-9PM Fri
- After Midnight – any precip will likely be ALL SNOW
- Significant Accumulations possible along/north of I-20/I-85 corridors
 - Mountains could see 6+ inches!



Radar Forecast – Friday Night/Saturday

Precip Type – Local High Res Model

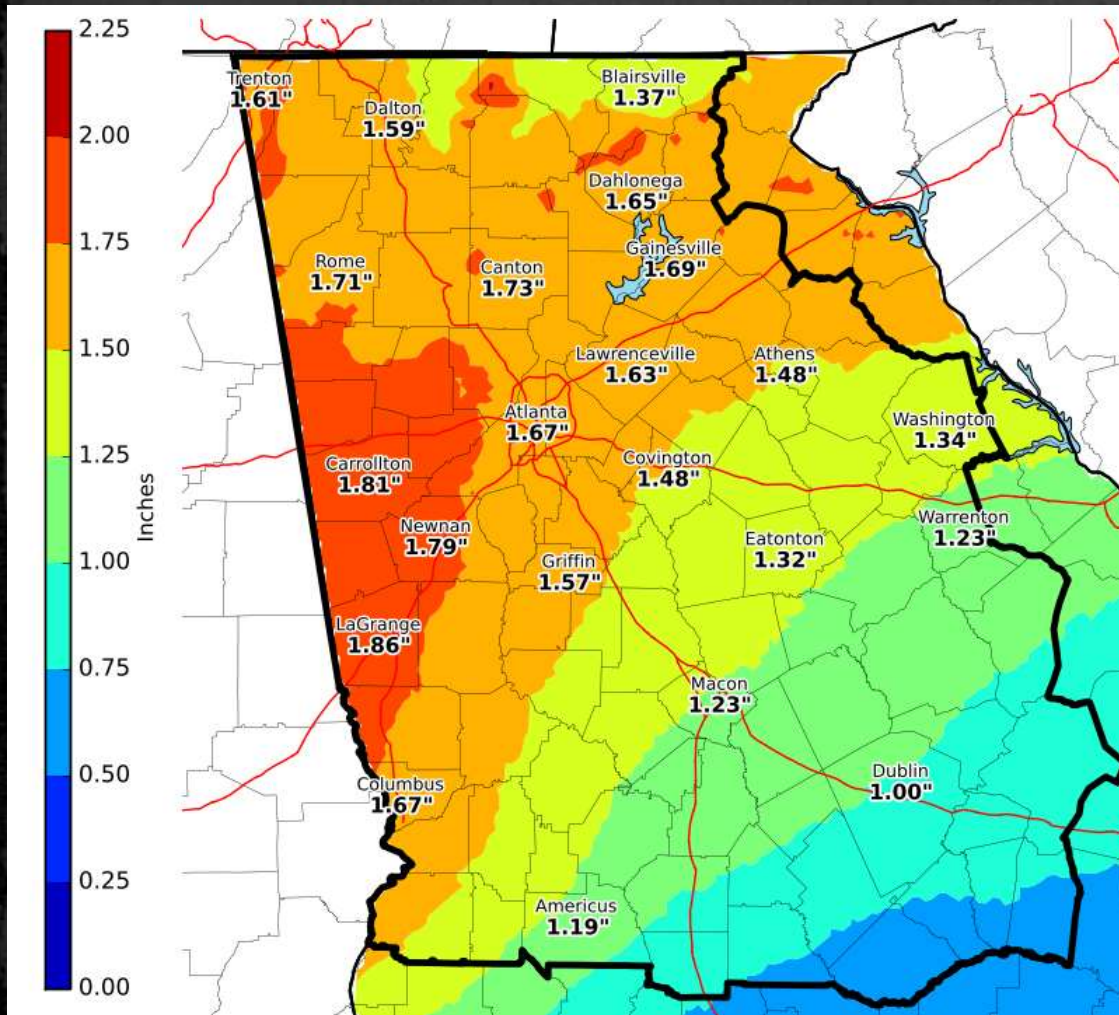
3 PM Fri– 4 AM Sat



- Note the wrap around
- Snow...metro area 5 PM – 10 PM



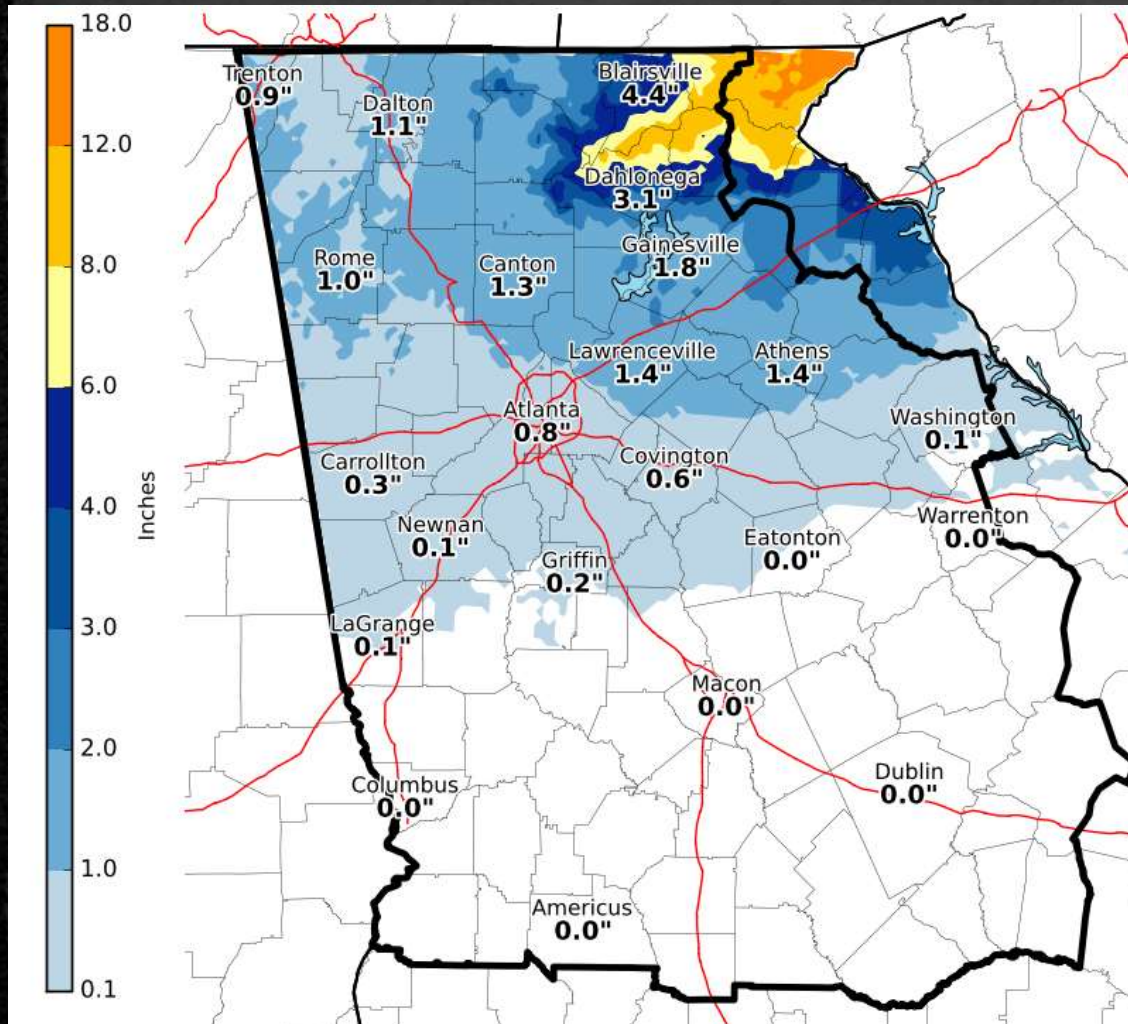
Total Rainfall (Thursday-Friday)



- Forecast valid as of 11AM Today (1/21)
- Expect localized (minor) flooding of fast-responding creeks/streams, + urban and low lying areas

Prelim Total Snowfall

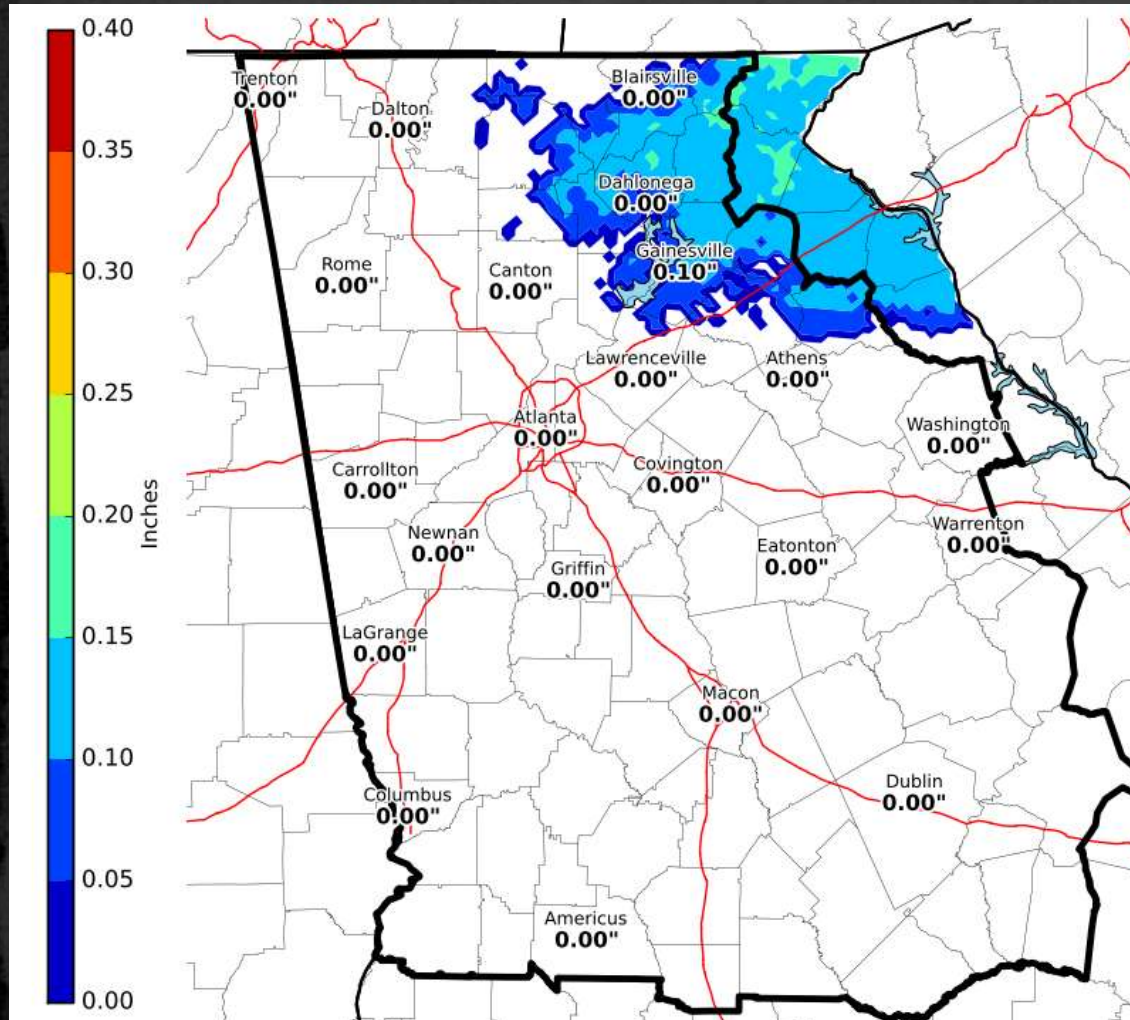
(Tonight-Saturday AM)



- Forecast valid as of 11AM Today (1/21)
- Don't get too locked in on amounts – they will change
- Heaviest amounts in area between I-75 and I-85 (north/northeast GA)
 - Elevations > 1500 FT

Prelim Ice Accumulations

(Tonight-Friday)

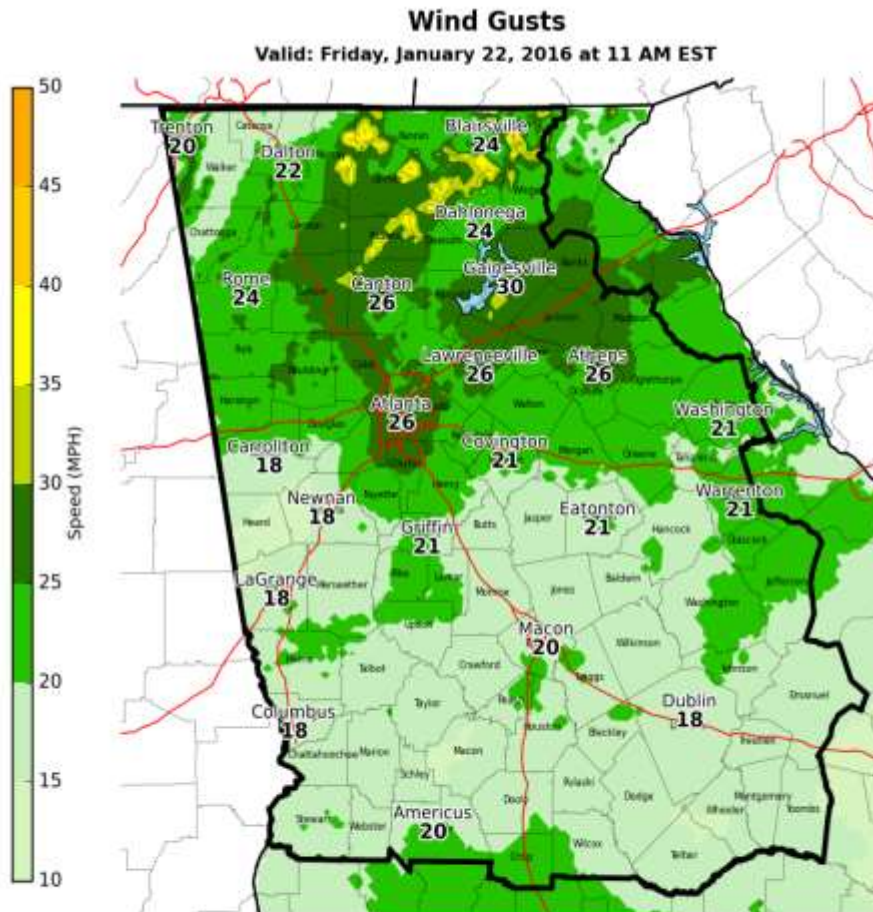


- Forecast valid as of 11AM Today (1/21)
- Window for Freezing Rain/Ice accums?
 - After midnight – early PM Friday
- Up to 0.20" in light blue areas

Max Wind Gusts

- Friday

- Saturday

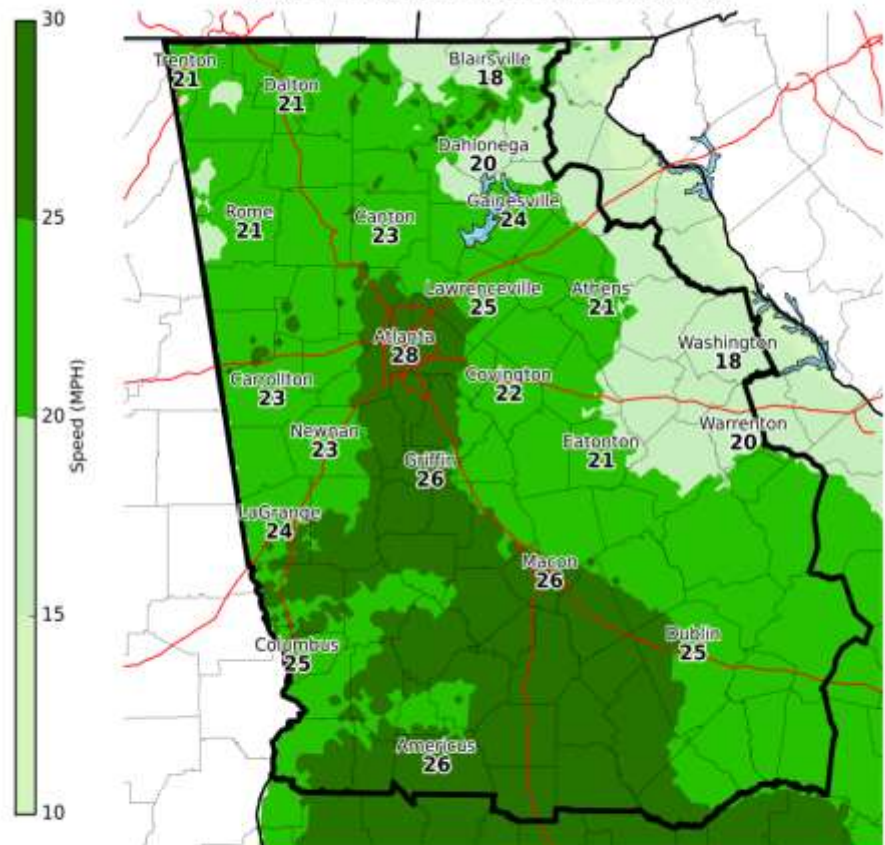


National Weather Service
Peachtree City, GA
01/21/2016 10:56 AM EST

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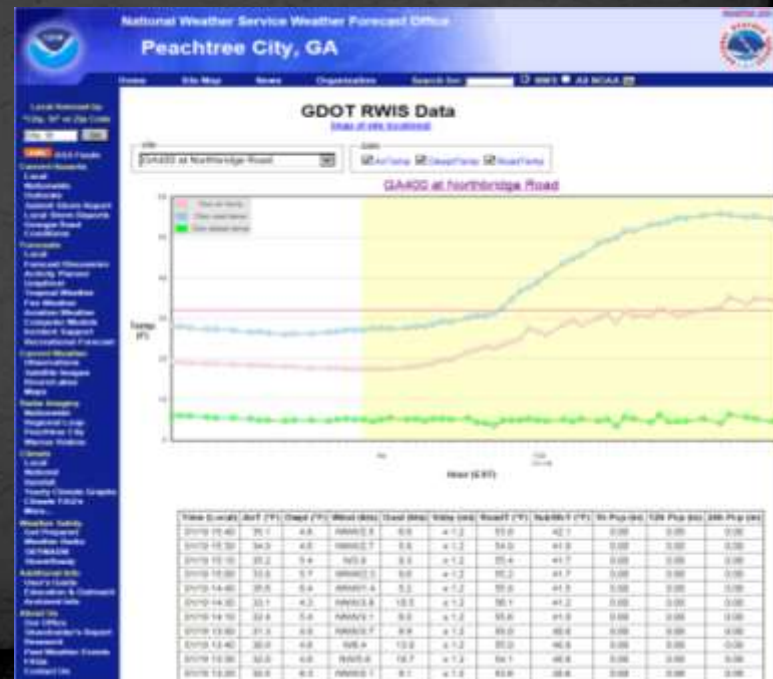
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- Experimental Winter Site up and running
 - <http://www.srh.noaa.gov/ffc/?n=winter>

- GDOT Road sensor data available on our website:
http://www.srh.noaa.gov/ffc/?n=GDOT_RWIS



Summary

- Complex weather event w/ numerous impacts expected
 - Freezing Rain / Ice (northeast GA)
 - Heavy Rain / Flooding
 - Strong Winds + Thunderstorms
 - Snow on backside of system
- **SIGNIFICANT SNOW/ICE ACCUMULATIONS EXPECTED BEGINNING LATE TONIGHT ACROSS NORTH GEORGIA... ESPECIALLY AREAS BETWEEN BLUE RIDGE AND TOCCOA**

